

Brenda A. Wise

From: prasberry <prasberry@optimum.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:51 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; STEUBEN_SUPERIOR; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Remapping Congressional Districts of Co-op City, et al.

Hello All,

I am a resident of Co-op City, Bronx, NY and we do not wish to allow the 16th district composed of Co-op City, Edenwald, Williamsbridge, and Lower Westchester to be remapped to the 14th District. This will marginalize our communities ability to elect individuals which are supportive of people of color, and who will best represent our interests.

While we are late in recognizing and being alerted of these mapping plans, we are completely against such remapping as a community are large.

Please consider our request for maintenance of the 16th District and the composition thereof, before deciding against the people's voting rights! Thank you for reading this email and hopefully hearing what our community have to say!

Best Regards,
Patricia Rasberry

On May 18, 2022, at 2:43 PM, lbrookes@optonline.net wrote:

Hi Everyone,

I guess most of you received the Riverbay message last night regarding the remapping of our voting district. I found the message so hard to understand that I recorded it on my cell phone so that today, when I was rested, I could clarify it and send the email to the sources we were to direct them to. I'm still not clear about the second email address!

I thought it might be helpful if I sent my email to the group at large, and anyone who wanted to, could copy it and send it themselves. This way, we would have the volume that might make some difference.

Respectfully,

Lynne Brookes

----- Original Message -----

From: lbrookes@optonline.net

To: bewise@nycourts.gov; stipinsuper@courts.gov

Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 2:32 PM

Subject: Remapping Congressional Districts of Co-op City, et al.

We do not wish to allow the 16th district composed of Co-op City, Edenwald, Williamsbridge, and Lower Westchester to be remapped to the 14th District. This will marginalize our communities ability to elect individuals which are supportive of people of color, and who will best represent our interests.

While we are late in recognizing and being alerted of these mapping plans, we are completely against such remapping as a community are large.

Please consider our request for maintenance of the 16th District and the composition thereof, before deciding against the people's voting rights!

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Sarah Lutz <sarlutz@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:52 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of Columbia County, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources.

Columbia County is located along the Hudson River in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and the Department of Economic Development has placed Columbia County in the Capital District. Under the proposed map, Columbia County would be isolated from both regions and be the only county in CD19 on the east side of the Hudson River. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties would be 748,393 people, which is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district.

Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively. Our judicial, assembly, and senate districts have little, if any, overlap with other counties included in the proposed CD19. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power.

Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, developing major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State.

The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns.

Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists, painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denied our county of effective representation.

Please preserve Columbia County as a unified community of interest with our neighboring counties. We share similar agricultural, historic, artistic, and economic challenges and opportunities with Dutchess, Ulster, Rensselaer, and Greene

Counties as part of the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake.

Very truly yours,

Sarah Lutz

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.sarah-lutz.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cbwise%40nycourts.gov%7C3ec9caf2a00c4902eec908da391031d9%7C3456fe92cbd1406db5a35364bec0a833%7C0%7C0%7C637885038964837445%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WO%2FFeUXJhKS3Wji6Q9v66lrOb8eR8sdJc1KU9d2KtIl%3D&reserved=0>

@sarahlutzstudio

917.432.7220

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Michael Pillinger <mhpillinger@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:51 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: voting district--Stuyvesant Town Peter Cooper Village

Dear Mr or Ms. Wise,

As a long time resident of Stuyvesant Town I see no logic in reorganizing our voting district to include parts of Brooklyn and Queens--we are simply not in a good position to communicate with such individuals, making such a district less democratic than our current one. Moreover, any representative for a new district will clearly know and understand our neighborhood less well than our current representation who represents contiguous neighborhoods.

I hope the courts will be wise, and see the error of the rezoning that they have proposed. I strongly encourage only minimal changes, at best to current Manhattan districts.

Sincerely,

Michael Pillinger, MD
Professor of Medicine
NYU Grossman School of Medicine

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Kelly Mateja <kellymateja@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:52 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: NY 20 redistricting comments

Dear Special Master,

I'm writing to urge you to keep the Capital Region Congressional District (NY20) intact in your map revisions for the final Congressional district map. I was surprised and disheartened to see the cities of Amsterdam and Saratoga Springs removed from NY20 and the Capital Region ripped apart in your draft maps.

As someone with a Master's in urban planning, a Bachelor's in Geography, and who has worked as a planner in the Capital Region, I believe the solution from a planner's viewpoint is quite simple to fix your draft maps. The Capital District cities of Albany, Amsterdam, Saratoga Springs, Schenectady Troy, and their surrounding towns created an urban-suburban district of similar communities. Removing some of the outlying rural communities from your current draft and placing those in NY21 will help keep alignment within NY21 communities with similar interests of this predominantly rural in nature 21st district.

Thank you,
Kelly Mateja
Colonie, NY

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Phillip McDowell <pbmmdiv@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:50 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Fwd: Map for Westbury's Inclusion in CD-04
Attachments: district-data-6.csv; block-assignments-3.csv; precinct-assignments-3.csv; district-abstract-3.json; map-analytics-3.json; district-shapes-6.geojson; district-shapes-6.zip; map-archive.json; precinct-data-4.csv

Begin forwarded message:

May 18, 2022

Dr. Johnathan Cervas, Special Master, NYS Congressional Maps
Carnegie Mellon University
Institute for Politics and Strategy
Posner Hall 386, 5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dr. Cervas,

I am Reverend Philip McDowell. As a faith-based community leader, I am reaching out on behalf of my congregation at the South Hempstead Baptist Church and as the moderator of the Eastern Baptist Association Inc. which represents the commonly aligned communities of Westbury, Hempstead, Uniondale, Roosevelt, Lakeview.

Long Island's demographics have notably changed in past decades, to the point at which Nassau County's population is now just barely majority non-Hispanic white. This calls for a rethinking of its congressional districts.

We note that the Special Master's proposed map embraces this demographic reality, as it divides southwest Nassau County from Queens (in the Elmont and Valley Stream areas included in the current Fifth District). In this spirit, we urge consideration of additional remedies of a marginal but significant nature, remedies that are notably rooted in the Fourth District's historical composition.

Historically, in addition to portions of the Town of Hempstead, the Fourth Congressional District has included portions of the Town of North Hempstead, specifically majority-minority Westbury and New Cassel, in addition to Mineola. Our map continues this tradition, and we wish to highlight that Jericho Turnpike (particularly east of Northern State Parkway) rather than the town line represents a substantial dividing line by race, income, and population density. This may not be readily apparent considering Eisenhower Park's placement, yet any quick study of demographics (or view of Jericho

Turnpike on GoogleMaps aerial view) confirms this social connectivity between Westbury/New Cassel and majority-minority communities located in the Town of Hempstead, such as Freeport, the Village of Hempstead, Valley Stream, and Elmont.

Some may contend that it is vital to maintain town boundaries in Nassau County. While this is one factor, the long-established social connectivity between Nassau County's communities of color -- who differ in lived experience and voting behavior from their white counterparts -- justifies consideration of an even more important one: the ability for minority voters to elect a candidate of their choice. As the Special Master's division of southwest Nassau County from Queens underscores this opportunity, the addition of Westbury and New Cassel further enhances the ability of voters of color to elect a candidate of their choice. In addition, local legislative districts at the town and county level (such as Nassau County's Second Legislative District) share commonality with this representational theme (i.e. the Nassau County Second Legislative District contains the two majority-minority precincts in the Town of Oyster Bay's Hicksville), and are indeed mandated by litigation (*Jackson v Nassau County Board of Supervisors*, and even *Goosby v Town Board of Hempstead*).

For more specificity, our proposed district is majority-minority not only in composition (47.4% White, 23.7% Hispanic, 20.3% Black, and 8.7% Asian, versus the initial Special Master proposal, at 50.7% White, 22.1% Hispanic, 19.1% Black, and 8.2% Asian) but also in voting-age population (49.7% White, 21.8% Hispanic, 20.1% Black, and 8.4% Asian, versus the initial Special Master proposal, at 52.9% White, 20.3% Hispanic, 18.9% Black, and 7.8% Asian). This suggests a significant change from ten years ago, when our proposal was 58.2% White, 17.9% Hispanic, 19.6% Black, and 6.1% Asian in its voting-age population. Demographic trends suggest our proposed majority-minority district is becoming ever-more diverse.

You may wonder how this impacts adjacent districts. Our recommendations maintain consistency with the Special Master's map. We noted the single split between Nassau and Suffolk Counties, in contrast to the current North Shore-South Shore divide. In order to add portions of the Town of North Hempstead to the Fourth, we have added portions of the Town of Hempstead culturally, politically, and demographically similar to adjacent sections of the Town of Oyster Bay, namely Seaford, Wantagh, and North Wantagh (compare to Massapequa and Massapequa Park on the Town of Oyster Bay side) in addition to Levittown as the Special Master had done.

In conclusion, we urge for the adoption of this proposed iteration of the Fourth Congressional District.

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INITIAL SPECIAL MASTER PROPOSAL

ALL of Town of Hempstead, except for Levittown (part) and Salisbury (part)

OUR PROPOSAL

ALL of Town of Hempstead, except for Levittown (all), Wantagh (all), North Wantagh (all), Bellmore (most)

Town of North Hempstead: Westbury (all), New Cassel (all), Carle Place (all), Mineola (part, south of Jericho Turnpike)

Town of Oyster Bay: Hicksville (two precincts)

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Davis Orellana <djdavisatg@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:51 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Fwd: Map for Westbury's Inclusion in CD-04
Attachments: district-data-6.csv; block-assignments-3.csv; precinct-assignments-3.csv; district-abstract-3.json; map-analytics-3.json; district-shapes-6.geojson; district-shapes-6.zip; map-archive.json; precinct-data-4.csv

May 18, 2022

Dr. Johnathan Cervas, Special Master, NYS Congressional Maps
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Institute for Politics and Strategy
 Posner Hall 386, 5000 Forbes Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dr. Cervas,

I am Davis Orellana, the President of The Hispanic United Association of Westbury which represents residents in the commonly aligned communities of Freeport, Westbury, Hempstead, Uniondale, Roosevelt, Lakeview, (ect). As President, I am filing a petition opposing the proposed New York Congressional districts, specifically the proposed lines of Congressional District 4.

Long Island's demographics have notably changed in past decades, to the point at which Nassau County's population is now just barely majority non-Hispanic white. This calls for a rethinking of its congressional districts.

We note that the Special Master's proposed map embraces this demographic reality, as it divides southwest Nassau County from Queens (in the Elmont and Valley Stream areas included in the current Fifth District). In this spirit, we urge consideration of additional remedies of a marginal but significant nature, remedies that are notably rooted in the Fourth District's historical composition.

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Some may contend that it is vital to maintain town boundaries in Nassau County. While this is one factor, the long-established social connectivity between Nassau County's communities of color -- who differ in lived experience and voting behavior from their white counterparts -- justifies consideration of an even more important one: the ability for minority voters to elect a candidate of their choice. As the Special Master's division of southwest Nassau County from Queens underscores this opportunity, the addition of Westbury and New Cassel further

enhances the ability of voters of color to elect a candidate of their choice. In addition, local legislative districts at the town and county level (such as Nassau County's Second Legislative District) share commonality with this representational theme (i.e. the Nassau County Second Legislative District contains the two majority-minority precincts in the Town of Oyster Bay's Hicksville), and are indeed mandated by litigation (*Jackson v Nassau County Board of Supervisors*, and even *Goosby v Town Board of Hempstead*).

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OUR PROPOSAL

ALL of Town of Hempstead, except for Levittown (all), Wantagh (all), North Wantagh (all), Baltimore (most)
 Town of North Hempstead: Westbury (all), New Cassel (all), Carle Place (all), Mineola (part south of Jericho Turnpike)
 Town of Oyster Bay: Hicksville (two precincts)

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Brenda A. Wise

From: judith dresher <judith.dresher@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:53 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: comment on new district maps

Dear NY Courts Staff,

I am writing to state my strong objection to the newly drawn congressional and state Senate district maps for New York. They break up existing neighborhoods and scatter them across several districts, in that way silencing the voices of citizens who wish to make their views known. For example, I currently live in the 10th Congressional District of New York, on the Upper West Side. It makes no sense to carve this district up and place it with pieces of other neighborhoods far away.

As Hakeem Jeffries said recently, "The NYS Constitution requires that the core of existing congressional districts be maintained." The new map fails to meet this requirement.

I strongly urge that new districts be drawn in a fair, equitable manner that respects existing communities.

sincerely,

Judith Dresher
645 West End Avenue apt 6F
New York, NY 10025

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Brenda A. Wise

From: William Wheeler-Murray <wmurray@villageofnewpaltz.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:53 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting of Ulster County

Dear Mr. Wise:

Ulster County residents have been served by a single representative in Congress for many decades. There's a social and cultural unity in this County that is being threatened with the proposed map revision. Please don't disturb this effort that has taken years to achieve by breaking us in two. From the Hudson River to the Catskill mountains, our local governments are working together to ensure everyone in Ulster County has the opportunity to be represented and thrive. We need one voice to speak for us in Congress, who will act on our behalf to meet the needs of our County as a whole.

Thanks very much for all your work but please reconsider.

Bill

William Murray
Trustee, Village of New Paltz

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Arthur J Levy <arthurjlevy2016@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:53 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Legislative boundary maps
Attachments: Judge McAllister Letter.pdf

To Judge Patrick F. McAllister and Special Master Prof. Jonathan R. Cervas. Please see attached letter.
Arthur J. Levy

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Arthur J. Levy
40 Clinton Street, Apt. 7A
Brooklyn, NY 11201
arthurjlevy2016@gmail.com
c: 917-587-2931
h: 718-797-0770

May 18, 2022

By Email: bwise@nycourts.gov and cervas@cmu.edu

Hon. Patrick F. McAllister, Acting Justice of the Supreme Court, Steuben County, and Special Master Prof. Jonathan R. Cervas

Dear Judge McAllister and Special Master Cervas:

I am a long-time resident of Brooklyn Heights and a retired New York State Workers' Compensation Law Judge. I have long been active in supporting local representatives, particularly our Assembly representative, Congressional representative and New York State Senator, to preserve and improve our neighborhoods, including protection, repair, and preservation of portions of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway and Brooklyn Heights Promenade abutting many of our communities.

I have long been proud of the community of interest my neighborhood has long had with the communities of Dumbo, Cobble Hill, Carroll Gardens, Boerum Hill, Park Slope, Gowanus, Red Hook and Sunset Park. We have long acted together with mutual support in countless ways including in jointly presenting for election members of the county committee, judicial delegates, and judicial alternates, all of whom now face risks of being disenfranchised by the current recently created changes in district lines as well as lines for representatives of Congress and the New York Senate.

I respectfully ask you to reconsider the current drawing of the Congressional and State Senate District lines which would break apart our long-held communities of interest, most particularly those of Brooklyn Heights, Gowanus, Red Hook and Sunset Park.

I also ask you to re-consider drawing of the borders of the southwest corner of the proposed Senate District 25, namely the triangular area bordered by Flatbush Avenue, Warren Street/Prospect Place, and 4th Avenue in Brooklyn. This portion of the proposed Senate District explicitly separates that triangular area from the rest of the neighborhood of Park Slope, residents of all of which have similarly long held a deeply held community of interest.

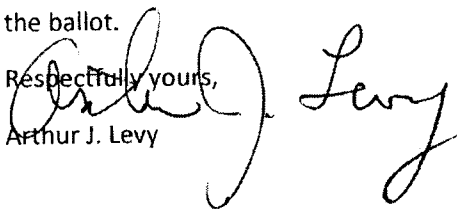
The New York Constitution, Art II, Section 4, Subdivision (c)((5) prescribes that in drawing legislative boundaries, consideration shall be given to "maintenance of cores of existing districts, of pre-existing political subdivisions, including counties, cities, and towns, and of communities of interest."

I respectfully submit that the boundaries set forth in the most recently created district map fails to comply with the foregoing prescription.

I note also that contrary to the direction in the same subdivision that districts "shall not be drawn to discourage competition or for the purpose of favoring or disfavoring incumbents or other particular candidates of political parties," the recently created boundary map does exactly that. It effectively causes incumbent members of Congress of the same political party, one of whom formerly represented parts of Manhattan and Brooklyn, and candidates of the same party and community of interest for the State Senate in Brooklyn Heights and Bay Ridge of Brooklyn to oppose each other on the ballot.

Respectfully yours,

Arthur J. Levy



Brenda A. Wise

From: Wilbur Mason <wamason2000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:52 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Map for Westbury's Inclusion in CD-04
Attachments: district-data-6.csv; block-assignments-3.csv; precinct-assignments-3.csv; district-abstract-3.json; map-analytics-3.json; district-shapes-6.geojson; district-shapes-6.zip; map-archive.json; precinct-data-4.csv

Dr. Johnathan Cervas, Special Master, NYS Congressional Maps
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Institute for Politics and Strategy
 Posner Hall 386, 5000 Forbes Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dr. Cervas,

I am Wilbur Mason, President of the Sherwood Gardens Civic Association. As a civic and community leader, I am reaching out on behalf of Sherwood Gardens Civic Association, representing members of my community and of the commonly aligned communities of Westbury, Hempstead, Uniondale, Roosevelt, Lakeview, (ect) as President, I am filing a petition opposing the proposed New York Congressional districts, specifically the proposed lines of Congressional District 4.

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Town of North Hempstead, Westbury (all), New Cassel (all), Carle Place (all), Mineola (part, south of Jericho Turnpike)

Town of Oyster Bay, Hicksville (two precincts)

--
With Gratitude,

Wilbur Mason
Sherwood Gardens Civic Association

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TOWN OF OWEGO SUPERVISOR

2354 State Route 434 ~ Apalachin, NY 13732

Office: 607-687-0123
Dept No: 7
Fax: 607-687-5191
TDD: 711

Donald Castellucci, Jr.

May 18, 2022

Hon. Patrick F. McAllister
Steuben County Supreme & County Court
3 East Pulteney Square
Bath, NY 14810

Dr. Jonathan Cervas, Special Master
Posner Hall 386, 5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dear Judge McAllister and Dr. Cervas,

I am writing in response to the state legislative maps that were recently released for public review and comment.

As I am sure you are aware the maps presented originally were full of gerrymandering and created for political gain. On behalf of my constituents as well as residents of all of Tioga County, I want to thank you for your hard work and effort to create a fairer scenario for all New York State residents. Some of the comments that I am hearing concerning separating communities lead me to believe that maybe a second look could be taken at the updated mapping.

Here in Tioga County we have a longstanding community bond with Broome County in relation to commercial business, agricultural business, and small business. As you may be aware, IBM started in Endicott (Broome Co) and expanded to Owego (Tioga County). Broome Community College and Binghamton University have served both communities very well for decades.

I have been on the Owego Town Board for 27 years, the last 13 as Town Supervisor. I have had the opportunity to work with a Senator that represented both Broome and Tioga Counties for all 27 years. I cannot express enough the benefit to citizens in both counties as we deal with many similar issues.

As you make the final review of these maps, I ask you to consider whole communities when finalizing them. I believe that breaking these communities up will have a long-term negative effect on their future.

Respectfully,

Donald Castellucci, Jr
Town of Owego, Supervisor

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Leslie Davis <naacppresldavis@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:53 PM
To: cervas@cmu.edu; Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Fwd: Map for Westbury's Inclusion in CD-04
Attachments: Screen Shot 2022-05-18 at 2.28.19 PM.png; district-data-6.csv; block-assignments-3.csv; precinct-assignments-3.csv; district-abstract-3.json; map-analytics-3.json; district-shapes-6.geojson; district-shapes-6.zip; map-archive.json; precinct-data-4.csv

May 18, 2022

Dr. Johnathan Cervas, Special Master, NYS Congressional Maps
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Institute for Politics and Strategy
 Posner Hall 386, 5000 Forbes Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dr. Cervas,

I am Leslie Davis, President of the Westbury/ New-Cassel Chapter of the NAACP. The Westbury, New Cassel chapter of the NAACP is filing a petition opposing the proposed New York Congressional districts, specifically the proposed lines of Congressional District 4. Long Island's demographics have notably changed in past decades, to the point at which Nassau County's population is now just barely majority non-Hispanic white. This calls for a rethinking of its congressional districts.

We note that the Special Master's proposed map embraces this demographic reality, as it divides southwest Nassau County from Queens (in the Elmont and Valley Stream areas included in the current Fifth District). In this spirit, we urge consideration of additional remedies of a marginal but significant nature, remedies that are notably rooted in the Fourth District's historical composition.

Historically, in addition to portions of the Town of Hempstead, the Fourth Congressional District has included portions of the Town of North Hempstead, specifically majority-minority Westbury and New Cassel, in addition to Mineola. Our map continues this tradition, and we wish to highlight that Jericho Turnpike (particularly east of Northern State Parkway) rather than the town line represents a substantial dividing line by race, income, and population density. This may not be readily apparent considering Eisenhower Park's placement, yet any quick study of demographics (or view of Jericho Turnpike on GoogleMaps aerial view) confirms this social connectivity between Westbury/New Cassel and majority-minority communities located in the Town of Hempstead, such as Freeport, the Village of Hempstead, Valley Stream, and Elmont.

Some may contend that it is vital to maintain town boundaries in Nassau County. While this is one factor, the long-established social connectivity between Nassau County's communities of color -- who differ in lived experience and voting behavior from their white counterparts -- justifies consideration of an even more important one: the ability for minority voters to elect a candidate of their choice. As the Special Master's division of southwest Nassau County from Queens underscores this opportunity, the addition of Westbury and New Cassel further enhances the ability of voters of color to elect a candidate

of their choice. In addition, local legislative districts at the town and county level (such as Nassau County's Second Legislative District) share commonality with this representational theme (i.e. the Nassau County Second Legislative District contains the two majority-minority precincts in the Town of Oyster Bay's Hicksville), and are indeed mandated by litigation (*Jackson v Nassau County Board of Supervisors*, and even *Goosby v Town Board of Hempstead*).

For more specificity, our proposed district is majority-minority not only in composition (47.4% White, 23.7% Hispanic, 20.3% Black, and 8.7% Asian, versus the initial Special Master proposal, at 50.7% White, 22.1% Hispanic, 19.1% Black, and 8.2% Asian) but also in voting-age population (49.7% White, 21.8% Hispanic, 20.1% Black, and 8.4% Asian, versus the initial Special Master proposal, at 52.9% White, 20.3% Hispanic, 18.9% Black, and 7.8% Asian). This suggests a significant change from ten years ago, when our proposal was 58.2% White, 17.9% Hispanic, 19.6% Black, and 6.1% Asian in its voting-age population. Demographic trends suggest our proposed majority-minority district is becoming ever-more diverse.

You may wonder how this impacts adjacent districts. Our recommendations maintain consistency with the Special Master's map. We noted the single split between Nassau and Suffolk Counties, in contrast to the current North Shore-South Shore divide. In order to add portions of the Town of North Hempstead to the Fourth, we have added portions of the Town of Hempstead culturally, politically, and demographically similar to adjacent sections of the Town of Oyster Bay, namely Seaford, Wantagh, and North Wantagh (compare to Massapequa and Massapequa Park on the Town of Oyster Bay side) in addition to Levittown as the Special Master had done.

In conclusion, we urge for the adoption of this proposed iteration of the Fourth Congressional District.

DISTRICT CONTENTS

INITIAL SPECIAL MASTER PROPOSAL

ALL of Town of Hempstead, except for Levittown (part) and Salisbury (part)

OUR PROPOSAL

ALL of Town of Hempstead, except for Levittown (all), Wantagh (all), North Wantagh (all), Bellmore (most)

Town of North Hempstead: Westbury (all), New Cassel (all), Carle Place (all), Mineola (part, south of Jericho Turnpike)

Town of Oyster Bay: Hicksville (two precincts)

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Michael Gio1980 <michaelgio1980@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:53 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Cc: howardbeachstrong2020@gmail.com; howardbeachdads@gmail.com
Subject: Index No. E2022-0116CV

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Dear Justice McAllister,

I'm writing in opposition to the current redistricting plan that will split my community and zip code into three Senate Districts. Hamilton Beach, Old Howard Beach, New Howard Beach and Lindenwood collectively are currently in Senate District-15, and we're represented by State Senator Joseph Addabbo. The plan would haphazardly split our neighborhood and place them in 3 newly proposed Senate Districts:

- Proposed SD-19 would include New Howard Beach and a portion of Lindenwood
- Proposed SD-15 would include a larger portion of Lindenwood
- Proposed SD-10 would include Hamilton Beach, Old Howard Beach, and portions of New Howard Beach

It is in the best interest of the people and community that we keep this "community of interest" together. The shared needs and concerns of all the stakeholders who live in our community of Howard Beach, for example, in 2012 the Howard Beach community was significantly impacted by Superstorm Sandy, one of the costliest natural disasters in our nation's history. In the immediate aftermath, our neighborhood sought government for help. Our representatives understood immediately what our community needed and secured aid to help families and businesses recover and rebuild. I couldn't imagine having to ask State Senators to get our community the help they needed.

The unintended consequence with the proposed splitting of our community is that voters will be alienated from politics involved. Not with the issues regarding the redistricting of our tight knit community but rather it will then result in lower turnouts for elections ultimately taking away their voices of who should represent them.

For the reasons set forth above, I strongly urge the new districts be drawn to keep the entire 15th District, in a similar configuration to the current lines, and that we should be given the opportunity by someone who knows the community that they have served for over 20 years. The most effective way to keep the community together, given the Special Master's proposed maps, would be to expand State Senate District 15 to encompass all of zip code 11414/Howard Beach within State Senate District 15.

Best Regards,

Sign: 

Print:

Michael Giordanella

Address

80-04 153rd Avenue Howard Beach

11414

Respectfully,

Michael Giordanella
President, Howard Beach Strong #HBStrong
(516) 369-5198

Brenda A. Wise

From: Bill Tai <billtai.mail@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:54 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: NY Redistricting - Public Comment

To Whom It May Concern -

I am extremely unhappy with the proposed redistricting map for Brooklyn. Having to choose between two extremely effective incumbents, Yvette Clark and Hakeem Jeffries, is not an improvement. I am against the new version of the map pitting major advocates for my districts against each other.

Similarly, I am shocked that Congressman Jerry Nadler and Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney would also have to be pitted against each other in Manhattan.

I believe the proposed map violates the State Constitution's requirement that communities of interest and the cores of existing districts be preserved

The court appears to ignore the input of communities of color, diluting the power of minority voters and pitting minority incumbents against each other.

The draft map released by a judicial overseer in Steuben County and unelected, out-of-town special master, both of whom happen to be white men, appears to part of a broader pattern targeting districts represented by members of the Congressional Black Caucus,"

I object to the latest map. Please do not approve it as it is now

Thank you,

Bill Tai
115 Eastern Parkway
Brooklyn, NY 11238

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: J Wilson <jarasiaw@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:54 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR; Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Objection to Draft Congressional Plan

I am a resident of the 56th Assembly District, residing at 430A Quincy Street, Brooklyn, NY in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, New York.

I strongly object to the draft Congressional redistricting plan recently proposed by the Special Master.

In his plan, my community Bedford Stuyvesant is split between two congressional seats, thereby cracking the Voting strength of the residents of this historic community. Bedford Stuyvesant was the first community of black residents to elect a black person to the political office over 60 years ago. It is a cohesive block of black voters with a history of advocating for the voting rights of Black people and other civil and human rights. Within the 56th Assembly District, we are a community of interest with common roots that advocates for our collective needs and institutions. (Boys & Girls High School, Interfaith Hospital, Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corp., Magnolia Earth Tree Center, etc.)

We respectfully request that the entire 56th Assembly District be included in the 8th Congressional District.

**Name: Jarasia Wilson
Address: 430A Quincy St, Brooklyn, NY 11221**

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Michael Gio1980 <michaelgio1980@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:54 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Cc: howardbeachstrong2020@gmail.com
Subject: Index No. E2022-0116CV

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- Proposed SD-15 would include a larger portion of Lindenwood
- Proposed SD-10 would include Hamilton Beach, Old Howard Beach, and portions of New Howard Beach

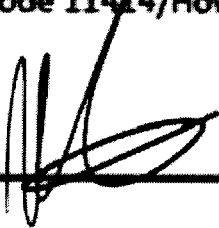
It is in the best interest of the people and community that we keep this "community of interest" together. The shared needs and concerns of all the stakeholders who live in our community of Howard Beach, for example, in 2012 the Howard Beach community was significantly impacted by Superstorm Sandy, one of the costliest natural disasters in our nation's history. In the immediate aftermath, our neighborhood government sought help. Our representatives understood immediately what our community needed and secured aid to help families and businesses recover and rebuild. I couldn't imagine having to ask State Senators to get our community the help they needed.

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Best Regards,

Sign:



Print:

Michael Giordanella

Address

80-04 153rd Avenue Howard Beach

11414

Respectfully,

Michael Giordanella
President, Howard Beach Strong #HBStrong
(516) 369-5198

Brenda A. Wise

From: Joan Bakiriddin <jbakiriddin@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:54 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR; Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Cc: Hassan Bakiriddin
Subject: Special Master: Redistricting Testimony
Attachments: CD8_CD9-Response-18May2022.pdf

Good day,

Attached, please find our testimony in response to the Maps drawn by the Special Master.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Joan Bakiriddin
e: jbakiriddin@yahoo.com
c: (646) 316-6318

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

May 18, 2022

Honorable Patrick McAllister
Acting Supreme Court Justice
Steuben County Supreme & County Court
3 East Pulteney Square
Bath, New York 14810

Special Master Jonathan Cervas
Institute for Politics and Strategy
Carnegie Mellon University
Posner Hall 386
5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

Dear Judge McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

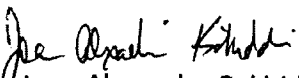
As members of the community, we are deeply disappointed by the map proposed on Monday, May 16th, for the 8th and 9th congressional districts of New York.

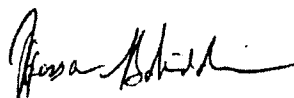
This draft map inexplicably dilutes the Black population in the 8th and 9th congressional districts in a manner wildly inconsistent with the constitutional mandate that communities of color should be put into a position to elect the candidate of their choice. The 8th district, as it is currently drawn, allows Fort Greene to join forces with other predominantly black neighborhoods like Clinton Hill, Bedford-Stuyvesant, Ocean Hill, Brownsville, East New York and Canarsie. These communities, along with our neighbors on the coastline of Jamaica Bay, have been able to speak with a unified voice to advocate for our common interests, issues and needs. The 9th District, as it is drawn cracks Bedford Stuyvesant and splits Crown Heights. How do you explain the dilution of the voices that once joined together to address issues, needs and concerns in the neighborhoods within this district?

The Court in Steuben County, which is more than 250 miles from our community, should have taken into account the comprehensive testimony of Brooklyn residents, civic leaders and stakeholders who made it clear that the communities of interest that presently constitute the 8th and 9th congressional districts should be kept together, as was the case in maps submitted by good government groups like Common Cause, civil rights groups like the Unity Coalition and the Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC).

We fervently oppose these draft maps and urge you to reconsider. Please make the communities of Crown Heights, Clinton Hill and Bedford Stuyvesant whole again. Please reference the Maps that were drawn by the Unity Map Coalition and supported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. These maps take into consideration the feedback of a diverse coalition and accurately reflect how the final maps should be redrawn.

Sincerely,


Joan Alexander-Bakiriddin


Hassan Bakiriddin

Brenda A. Wise

From: Ahuva Yelizarov <ahuvayelizarov@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:54 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Senate District lines

My name is Lilianna Zulunova, I am submitting this testimony in protest of the new maps that were released for the New York Senate. The Jewish communities of Kew Gardens Hills and Hillcrest were heavily involved in asking the Independent Redistricting Commission to keep these neighborhoods together. Furthermore, Pomonok Houses, and Electchester cooperative have always been part of our district, they are our neighbors, and many of our families originate from these public housing entities.

In the state legislature's plan, they took into account our testimony and made a district that combined most of the Jewish community in Central Queens. Kew Gardens Hills has been gerrymandered into a South East Queens State Senate District. Pomonok, Electchester and Hillcrest has been split off into a Flushing centered district. This is splitting our communities up. Communities of interest must be together in one district.

We ask that in your final draft you put the neighborhoods of Kew Gardens Hills, Pomonok, Electchester, and Hillcrest into the district you drew of central Queens with Forest Hills, Rego Park, Middle Village, and Glendale. Please remove Ozone Park and Richmond Hill as they are not the same communities of interest as we are to the neighborhoods mentioned above.

Sincerely,

Lilianna Zulunova

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Brenda A. Wise

From: United Democratic Organization NYC <udonycemail@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:54 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Congressional District 1

Dear Judge McAllister,

We are writing about the newly drawn Congressional lines in the 7th district.

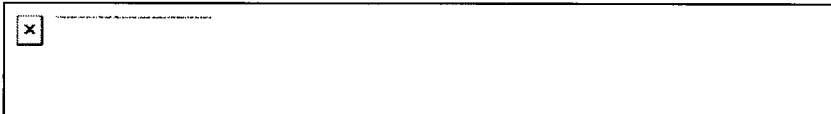
Congressional District 7 has been, for the past 30 years, a district where Latino and Asian American voters can elect a candidate who best represents our values and empowers our communities. Our communities were united to reflect the requirements of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) to keep these neighborhoods and communities of interest together. The special master's map as drawn completely disregards and disempowers our communities—a shocking insult in the face of the incredible growth of Latino and Asian American New Yorkers, and a startling threat to these communities in the face of a VRA that remains on the books as federal law.

We believe the proposed map is unconstitutional on a state and federal level. It degrades the Latino and Asian American population, depriving voters of fair representation by ripping apart neighborhoods that have been a core part of Congressional district 7 for nearly 30 years. The new lines ignore the coalition of communities that have been recognized by courts and placed in the same congressional districts. And it ignores the hundreds of people who took time out of their busy schedules to testify.

Continuing to keep the Chinatowns of Lower Manhattan and Sunset Park, and their surrounding Latino communities united with North Brooklyn is especially important. In fact, keeping Sunset Park tied to its roots and that of its communities of interest together was one item that had bipartisan support within the commission. To see that changed by the Special Master is shameful and disrespectful. The map as drawn will have dire impacts on the communities, particularly Asian Americans, who represent nearly 15% of New Yorkers but lack meaningful representation across the entire state. The map should reflect our right to ensure access to candidates that represent their community's interests and needs. Fairness, not compactness, should be at the heart of this redistricting process.

Therefore, we sincerely urge the map to be redrawn to keep these communities together.

Sincerely,
Chung Seto, President
Jenny Low, State Committee Member



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<https://www.facebook.com/udonyc/>

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Brenda A. Wise

From: JAMES BELL <jfbell1@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:55 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New NY STATE SENATE DISTRICT

C'mon man! Stuyvesant Town's Senate District should be where we can walk to. It should not include Queens for sure.
Please reconsider this if you'd be so kind.
Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Isabelle Perez <isabelleperez@optonline.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:56 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting

Hello,

Please consider that the process of drawing district maps should have has its primary focus serving the needs of the citizens, not those of politicians.

Many thanks for your time

Isabelle Perez

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: J Wilson <jarasiaw@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:56 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR; Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Fw: 16th Congressional District,

Please leave the 16th Congressional District "as is" under Jamal Bowman.

Do you change the district maps.

Thank you.
J Wilson
100 Bellamy Loop#2C
Bronx, NY 10475

Sent from Mail for Windows

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Leslie Davis <naacppresldavis@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:56 PM
To: cervas@cmu.edu; Brenda A. Wise

May 18, 2022

Dr. Johnathan Cervas, Special Master, NYS Congressional Maps
Carnegie Mellon University
Institute for Politics and Strategy
Posner Hall 386, 5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dr. Cervas,

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In conclusion, we urge for the adoption of this proposed iteration of the Fourth Congressional District.

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ALL of Town of Hempstead, except for Levittown (part) and Salisbury (part)

OUR PROPOSAL
 ALL of Town of Hempstead, except for Levittown (all), Wantagh (all), North Wantagh (all), Bellmore (most),
 Town of North Hempstead, Westbury (all), New Cassel (all), Carle Place (all), Mineola (part south of Jericho Turnpike),
 Town of Oyster Bay, Hicksville (two precincts)

10 Attachments

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Bernie Slovensky <bernieslov@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:56 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Ulster County in Congress

For decades, Ulster County residents have been served by a single representative in Congress. Please don't break us in two. From the Hudson River to the Catskill mountains and fertile valleys in between, our local governments are working together to ensure everyone in Ulster has the opportunity to thrive. We need one voice to speak for us in Congress, who will act on our behalf to meet the needs of our county as a whole.

Regards,

Bernadette Slovensky
Shokan, NY
845-657-6563

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Diane Maitland <maitlanddm@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:57 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Jefferson county congressional district

Dear Judge McAllister and Special Master Jonathan Cervas:

As a concerned citizen, I am writing in regard to the proposed changes for Jefferson County and the congressional district. I am a life long resident of Jefferson County and I whole heartedly believe splitting Jefferson County for Congressional districts would be devastating to everyone that calls the North Country home. This county is mainly made up of small towns of which are connected by our two hundred plus years of historic bond. We are extremely proud of our tight knit communities. We view Jefferson County as one cohesive unit of neighbors supporting each other. Certainly, dividing the county for congressional districts would be detrimental to our residents. Combining Jefferson County with Erie County in my view is an irrational decision. I implore you to reconsider the current proposed alignment. Keeping Jefferson County in one Congressional district is paramount as we are one big family here in the North Country.

I appreciate you time and consideration for this matter.

Sincerely,

Diane M. Maitland

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

BROWNSTONERS OF BEDFORD STUYVESANT, INC.

May 18, 2022

TO: Honorable Justice Patrick McAllister
Special Master Jonathan Cervas

FROM: The Brownstoners of Bedford Stuyvesant, Inc.

RE: Objection to the Draft Congressional Plan

The Brownstoners of Bedford Stuyvesant, Inc. is an organization that was formed over forty (40) years ago. Its purpose was to work to stabilize the flight of homeowners from Bedford Stuyvesant. Throughout the years, members have been very active in the community. We have worked with our neighborhood schools, tax and water lien outreach to homeowners, voter education, safety issues and much more.

Collaboration with other community-based organizations such as Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corp., Bridge Street Development Inc., Weeksville Heritage Center, Pratt Area Community Council, Magnolia Earth Tree, 500 Men Making a Difference and Community Board # 3 to name a few, contribute to the success of our work.

We are concerned and strongly object to the draft Congressional redistricting plan recently proposed by the Special Master. The plan will split Bedford Stuyvesant between two Congressional seats. This plan is quite troubling. Does the Special Master know the history of our community?

We are a community of interest with common roots that advocate for our common needs. We respectfully request that the entire 56th Assembly District be included in the 8th Congressional District.

Respectfully submitted,

Renée V. Gregory

President,

Brownstoners of Bedford Stuyvesant, Inc.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Adam <adam.grumbach@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:57 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; STEUBEN_SUPERIOR; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: The redistricting maps are outrageous

Greetings:

I write to express my opinion on the recently released maps for NYS congressional districts.

First, I wish to state that it is absolutely absurd that the public has less than two days to comment on these plans. That is entirely undemocratic.

Second, the maps are unfair.

NY-16 must retain the northeast Bronx communities of Co-Op City, Edenwald and Williamsbridge with lower Westchester.

The special master's proposed map decreases the Black voter population by about 17%, this dilutes the voting power of Black people in NY-16, further marginalizing them and making it difficult for them to elect candidates that best represent their interests.

The northeast Bronx's predominantly Black community was splintered into three congressional districts: Co-Op City is mapped into NY-14, Williamsbridge and Baychester into NY-15 and Edenwald kept in NY-16. This directly dropped the Black voter population in NY-16 and split these communities of interest.

Watching Republicans gerrymander every state they can, diluting the Black vote so that it will have zero political impact, has been infuriating.

It is similarly infuriating to watch the same process happening here in New York, all in the name of "fairness."

I urge that these maps be redrawn.

Very truly yours,

Adam Grumbach

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Nick George <aaronkmb1@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:57 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise

These new drawn lines make no sense except for those seeking a political advantage.
These times call for independent commissions to draw the maps in ALL states of our country.
RIDICULOUS!

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Ilana Haramati <ilana.haramati@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:58 PM
To: cervas@cmu.edu; Brenda A. Wise
Subject: 2022-0116CV

I write as a lifelong New Yorker to object strongly to the proposed district maps released as part of the litigation, case number 2022-0116CV.

These proposed maps would require several pairs of incumbent African American representatives to run against each other. That has the effect of diluting minority representation in NY's congressional delegation.

The new proposed maps also break up the 5 boros of New York City and the surrounding areas in ways that are inconsistent with historical districts and representation. For example, I am from lower Westchester county, just north of New York City. My area has long been represented by a congress person who represents both lower westchester and parts of the Bronx. The current maps separate westchester from the Bronx. Because the lower westchester area has much in common with the Bronx, demographically and socioeconomicay, a single representative can best advocate for the interests of both communities. Separating lower westchester from the 5 boros, only serves to dilute our interests.

These proposed maps are untethered from the reality of NY communities and would harm my interests in fair representation, along with the interests of millions of New Yorkers.

As a concerned New Yorker, I object to the proposed maps.

Best,

Ilana Haramati

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Brenda A. Wise

From: nancy sherman <nanbs450@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:58 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Objection to the newly proposed Congressional map

Dear Court Clerk,

I am writing to express my strong objection to the newly drawn congressional map!

Specifically, it is totally wrong to place great leaders who have represented their constituents very well in the position of having to compete with each other for a seat in Congress. I refer to Rep. Nadler vs. Maloney and Rep. Jeffries vs. Clarke.

This is extremely unfair and undemocratic. The only way to a fair conclusion has to be to redraw the map once again and to restore the districts to where they were, or, at least, to a more equitable arrangement, so that people are allowed to vote for the incumbents they have already elected and whom they want to remain in office!

Please send this terrible, thoughtlessly, simplistically considered Congressional map back to be drawn up fairly.

Sincerely,
Nancy

Resident of the Upper West Side, Manhattan

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NAACP New York State Conference

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

May 18, 2022

Brookhaven Town

Dr. Georgette Grier-Key
President

Central – Long Island

Rev Saba McHungu i
President

Eastern Long Island

Lawrence Street
President

Freeport-Roosevelt

Douglas Mayers
President

Hempstead

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President

Huntington

Veronique Bailey
President

Islip Town

William ing Moss III
President

Lakeview

Doris Hicks
President

North Shore

Qiana Hobdy
President

Westbury

Leslie F. Davis
President

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

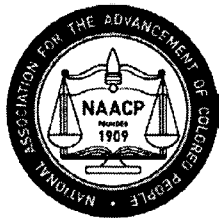
Hon. Patrick McAllister
Acting Supreme Court Justice
4 East Pulteney Square
Bath, NY 14810

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Dr. Jonathan Cervas
Carnegie Mellon University Posner Hall 388
5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

My name is Tracey Edwards, and I am the NAACP Long Island Regional Director of the NAACP. The Long Island region comprises of ten branches in Nassau and Suffolk Counties consisting of Freeport/Roosevelt, Hempstead, Lakeview, North Shore, and Westbury in Nassau County and Brookhaven, Central Long Island, Eastern Long Island, Huntington, and Islip Township in Suffolk County. These branches represent **all** of the Long Island based on their geographic areas. We have reviewed the proposed maps. The Congressional CD4 proposed map and the Senate Districts described on page 4 split our communities and if adopted without modification the black community will be denied seats at the table and our voices will not be heard.

Congressional districts should share common life experiences and interests. Congressional Districts should be a unifier not a divider. The proposed CD-4 does not unify, it dismantles. Westbury/New Cassel is an important community in Nassau County and should be in the same Congressional District as communities of color in the Village of Hempstead. We encourage you to visit the proposed areas so that you will better understand the commonality and the key differences. Talk to the people that live in these areas about their daily lives and challenges. It will be very clear to you very quickly. Adopting the proposed map, as is -devastates our power and dilutes our voting strength and influence.



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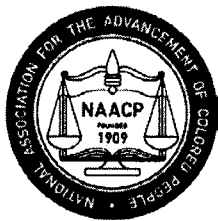
The Long Island Regional NAACP is filing a petition opposing the proposed New York Congressional districts, specifically the proposed lines for **Congressional District 4** as well as the **Senate District 6 in Nassau and Senate Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 in Suffolk County**.

Long Island's demographics have notably changed in past decades, to the point at which Nassau County's population is now just barely majority non-Hispanic white. This calls for a rethinking of its congressional districts.

We note that the Special Master's proposed map embraces this demographic reality, as it divides southwest Nassau County from Queens (in the Elmont and Valley Stream areas included in the current Fifth District). In this spirit, we urge consideration of additional remedies of a marginal but significant nature, remedies that are notably rooted in the Fourth District's historical composition.

Historically, in addition to portions of the Town of Hempstead, the Fourth Congressional District has included portions of the Town of North Hempstead, specifically majority-minority Westbury and New Cassel, in addition to Mineola. Our map continues this tradition, and we wish to highlight that Jericho Turnpike (particularly east of Northern State Parkway) rather than the town line represents a substantial dividing line by race, income, and population density. This may not be readily apparent considering Eisenhower Park's placement, yet any quick study of demographics (or view of Jericho Turnpike on GoogleMaps aerial view) confirms this social connectivity between Westbury/New Cassel and majority-minority communities located in the Town of Hempstead, such as Freeport, the Village of Hempstead, Valley Stream, and Elmont.

Some may contend that it is vital to maintain town boundaries in Nassau County. While this is one factor, the long-established social connectivity between Nassau County's communities of color -- who differ in lived experience and voting behavior from their white counterparts -- justifies consideration of an even more important one: the ability for minority voters to elect a candidate of their choice. As the Special Master's division of southwest Nassau County from Queens underscores this opportunity, the addition of Westbury and New Cassel further enhances the ability of voters of color to elect a candidate of their choice.



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In addition, local legislative districts at the town and county level (such as Nassau County's Second Legislative District) share commonality with this representational theme (i.e. the Nassau County Second Legislative District contains the two majority-minority precincts in the Town of Oyster Bay's Hicksville), and are indeed mandated by litigation (Jackson v Nassau County Board of Supervisors, and even Goosby v Town Board of Hempstead).

For more specificity, our proposed district is majority-minority not only in composition (47.4% White, 23.7% Hispanic, 20.3% Black, and 8.7% Asian, versus the initial Special Master proposal, at 50.7% White, 22.1% Hispanic, 19.1% Black, and 8.2% Asian) but also in voting-age population (49.7% White, 21.8% Hispanic, 20.1% Black, and 8.4% Asian, versus the initial Special Master proposal, at 52.9% White, 20.3% Hispanic, 18.9% Black, and 7.8% Asian). This suggests a significant change from ten years ago, when our proposal was 58.2% White, 17.9% Hispanic, 19.6% Black, and 6.1% Asian in its voting-age population. Demographic trends suggest our proposed majority-minority district is becoming ever-more diverse.

You may wonder how this impacts adjacent districts. Our recommendations maintain consistency with the Special Master's map. We noted the single split between Nassau and Suffolk Counties, in contrast to the current North Shore-South Shore divide. In order to add portions of the Town of North Hempstead to the Fourth, we have added portions of the Town of Hempstead culturally, politically, and demographically similar to adjacent sections of the Town of Oyster Bay, namely Seaford, Wantagh, and North Wantagh (compare to Massapequa and Massapequa Park on the Town of Oyster Bay side) in addition to Levittown as the Special Master had done.

We urge for the adoption of this proposed iteration of the Fourth Congressional District.



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Senate Districts:

Although the **Senate district SD-6** looks to create a majority-minority district, it divides yet another community of color. Lakeview and the Incorporated Village of Rockville. The Lakeview community is a champion of Civil Rights. In fact, Martin Luther King spoke in Lakeview in 1965. To intentional split Lakview is a slap in the face to all. The proposed map needs to unify Lakeview and unify Rockville Centre so that it will reflect an actual majority-minority district.

Senate District SD-3, separates Coram, Gordon Heights and Bellport from Brentwood and Central Islip. Brentwood and Central Islip is now **Senate District SD-4** What you have done here with this proposed map is allow minority areas to standalone. The voting power has **again** been diluted.

Senate District SD-2 same thing. Separates Huntington from Wyandanch, splits Wheatley Heights in half and puts part of the minority district in North Massapequa which is a non-minority district in **Senate District SD-8**.

Senate District SD-1 has Riverhead standing alone and should be with Gordon Heights and Bellport. Overall for Suffolk County, there is not one minority district and if adopted as is will set our communities back hundreds of years. It needs to be rectified.

Thank for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you on the next steps.

Thank You

Tracey A. Edwards

Tracey A. Edwards
Long Island Regional Director

cc:
President Ha el Dukes, New York State NAACP

Dr. Ha el N. Dukes - President, New York State Conference

Tracey A. Edwards Regional Director, Long Island

Brenda A. Wise

From: heysteff97 <heysteff97@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:59 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: FW: Objection to Draft Congressional Plan

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

----- Original message -----

From: heysteff97 <heysteff97@aol.com>
Date: 5/18/22 4:58 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: Steuben_superior@nycourts.gov
Subject: Objection to Draft Congressional Plan

To Hon. Justice Patrick McAllister and Special Master Jonathan Cervas:
re: Objection to Draft Congressional Plan

I am a resident of the 56th Assembly District, residing at 455A Macon Street in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, New York.

I strongly object to the draft Congressional redistricting plan recently proposed by the Special Master.

In his plan, my community Bedford Stuyvesant is split between two congressional seats, thereby cracking the Voting strength of the residents of this historic community. Bedford Stuyvesant was the first community of black residents to elect a black person to the political office over 60 years ago. It is a cohesive block of black voters with a history of advocating for the voting rights of Black people and other civil and human rights. Within the 56th Assembly District, we are a community of interest with common roots that advocates for our collective needs and institutions. (Boys & Girls High School, Interfaith Hospital, Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corp., Magnolia Earth Tree Center, etc.)

We respectfully request that the entire 56th Assembly District be included in the 8th Congressional District.

**Name: Stephanie Samuel
Address: 455A Macon Street, Brooklyn NY 11233**

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Julio Peña III <jpena3@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:58 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Re: Map Comments
Attachments: NY07 Comments - 05.18.2022.docx

Good afternoon,

Please see revised comments for NY07 with additional signatories. Thank you.

On Wed, May 18, 2022 at 2:19 PM Julio Peña III <jpena3@gmail.com> wrote:
Good afternoon,

Please see attached and below comments regarding the proposed maps:

Regarding the proposed Senate District 26 and Senate District 17, while I am pleased that Sunset Park is no longer represented by five State Senate Districts and consolidated into one, I was disappointed to see that the Chinatown portion of the district was split into two proposed districts of 26 and 17. The border of SD26 should be along 4th or 5th Ave traveling north and then back up to 8th or 9th Ave as it reaches 45th or 44th Street (or in the mid 40s). This would ensure that Brooklyn's Chinatown is represented in the Asian plurality district of SD17 as was intended.

--

Julio Peña III | he/they

AD51 District Leader
BK CB7 1st Vice Chair
Neighbors Helping Neighbors & Fifth Ave Committee

--

Julio Peña III | he/they

AD51 District Leader
BK CB7 1st Vice Chair
Neighbors Helping Neighbors & Fifth Ave Committee

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May 18th, 2022

Via Electronic Mail

Hon. Patrick F. McAllister
Steuben County Supreme and County Court
3 East Pulteney Square
Bath, NY 14810

Dr. Jonathan Cervas, Special Master
Poster Hall 386, 5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dear Judge McAllister and Dr. Cervas,

Congressional District 7 has been, for the past 3 decades, a district where Latino and Asian voters can elect a candidate of choice, empowering communities that in the past were divided and whose voices were diluted. These communities of interest, while not compact, were united to reflect the requirements of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) to keep these neighborhoods and communities of interest together. The special master's map as drawn completely disregards and disempowers these communities—a shocking insult in the face of the incredible growth of Latino and Asian New Yorkers, and a startling threat to these communities in the face of a VRA that remains on the books as federal law.

This Congressional District's cohesion has been noted by court after court after court—not for partisan purposes, but for legal necessities that are underscored by civil rights principles.

The district was drawn to connect the largest Latino communities from North Brooklyn to the Lower East Side across the bridge and Sunset Park to the south. Additionally, the court upheld the Asian community of interest between the two Chinatowns linked from Manhattan to Southwest Brooklyn along the N/R subway lines. Based on the maps as they are drawn, Southwest Brooklyn is completely cut off. Further, the areas of Sunset Park and Red Hook are no longer connected to adjacent neighborhoods and communities to the north and placed in a district that shares no commonality. Already marginalized from transit and split in political districts, Red Hook and Sunset Park are divided and not united in the current proposal. The maps also unfairly chop up and pit neighboring Black voting rights district Representatives both in Brooklyn and in the Bronx and Westchester.

The definition of a community of interest as specified on the NY Independent Redistricting Committee is as follows:

A community of interest is a population which shares enough social and economic interests of importance that suggest said community should be included in a single district for effective and fair representation. These might include similar standards of living, shared methods and patterns of transportation, or similar economic and societal concerns.

That definition encompasses exactly what community groups and individuals have raised during testimony and comments throughout this entire process. This is NOT partisanship at play, it's common sense and civil rights. Communities of color share cultural and social dynamics and have worked to empower their respective communities, protect their members from a rise in hate, embrace the immigrant experience, and promote climate and environmental justice. During the entire years-long process, community members from across the 7th Congressional District urged the commission to keep these neighborhoods united.

Yet, the Special Master has sacrificed the empowerment of minority communities – whether Latino, Black, or Asian – that are culturally linked in favor of compactness and competitiveness. Compactness has less weight in an urban area built on islands connected by bridges and transit lines. While the maps may look “clean”, they exacerbate the historical disenfranchisement of communities of color. The proposed map is a product of a racially flawed interpretation of prioritizing compactness over voting rights. The consideration for compactness is to do it as “practicable” and shouldn't override the primary consideration of drawing lines fair to minority voting rights.

Let's be clear—this proposed map is unconstitutional on a state and federal level. It degrades the Latino population, depriving voters of fair representation by ripping apart 5 neighborhoods that have been a core part of the district for nearly 30 years. It ignores the coalition of communities that have been recognized by courts and placed in the same congressional districts. And it ignores the hundreds of people who took time out of their busy schedules to testify.

Continuing to keep the Chinatowns of Lower Manhattan and Sunset Park, and their surrounding Latino communities united with North Brooklyn is especially important. In fact, keeping Sunset Park tied to its roots and that of its communities of interest together was one item that had bipartisan support within the commission. To see that changed by the Special Master is shameful. The map as drawn will have dire impacts on the communities, particularly Latinos who represent nearly 1 in 5 New Yorkers but lack meaningful representation across the entire state. The map should reflect their right to ensure access to candidates that represent their community's interests and needs. Fairness, not compactness, should be at the heart of this redistricting process.

Therefore, I sincerely urge the map to be redrawn to keep these communities together.

Maritza Davila
Assemblymember, District 53

Alexa Aviles
Councilmember, District 38

Julio Peña III
District Leader, Assembly District 51

Samuel Nemir Olivares
District Leader, Assembly District 53

Jesse Pierce
District Leader, Assembly District 52

Carlos J. Calzadilla
Red Hook resident

Jacqui Painter
Red Hook resident

Katherine P. Walsh
Chair, 51st Assembly District Committee
Sunset Park resident

Edward Cerna
Sunset Park resident

Portia Lipscomb
Voting Representative
National Alliance of HUD Tenants
Sunset Park Tenants United Tenant Assn of Sunset Park Rehab 1, 2 and 3

Ms. Lynn Tondrick
Sunset Park residen

Jesse Solomon, Executive Director
SBIDC

Michelle de la Uz, Executive Director
Fifth Avenue Committee & Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Anita Bulan
Resident

Tarry Hum, Professor
City University of New York

Martha Kamber

Larry McReynolds, Executive Director
Sunset Park Health Council

Cynthia VandenBosch

Steve Mei

Yvette Aguirre
Retired Sunset Park Principal

Chung Seto, President
United Democratic Organization

Zachary Jasie
Sunset Park resident

Jordan Smith
Center for Family Life in Sunset Park

Terri Carta

Brenda A. Wise

From: EDWARD GOLDMAN <edgtennis@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:59 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redoing the district lines

Please do not accept the map that the special master has suggested!
Many of his decisions are in direct contravention to requirements of the New York State Constitution concerning fair representation for various constituencies.
Please protect minority neighborhoods so that their voices are not restricted.
Sincerely,
Edward E. Goldman
250 West 16 Street - 4E
New York NY 10011-6105

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Heyward, Alicia (HHSNASSAUCOUNTYNY) <Alicia.Heyward@hhsnassaucountyny.us>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:00 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting Concerns

As a Member of the historic Lakeview, NY (11552) community I am making a plea that Lakeview be kept in one district [SD-6]. We are a predominantly black community with a rich history that needs to be respected and maintained. I feel the newly drawn lines are intended to divide us and our votes. This will have catastrophic effects on our community during elections. I demand immediate action. Please reconsider the lines immediately!

Anthony & Alicia Heyward
961 Derrick Adkins Lane
Lakeview NY 11552

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Brenda A. Wise

From: ddbuxbaum@earthlink.net
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:00 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Cc: ddbuxbaum@earthlink.net
Subject: Proposed changes to Nycia Velasquez district

I have been served well by Congresswoman Velasquez. The current district lines she serves makes complete sense in that this is a neighborhood in the true sense. The current lines include a varied community of residents, but a real community in the true sense of the word. To break it up and give parts of it to disparate areas makes no sense. We have worked together as a "community" in the real sense of the word community. Representative Velasquez is valued by the residents, and we have been served well by her through the years. My first real vision of Representative Velasquez was when she supported our efforts to have the Gowanus Canal made a Superfund site. On numerous other occasions she has been there for the residents of this community. Please do not break up this district and leave what is effective as it has been and should be.

I am grateful for the opportunity to make this comment. I sincerely hope that what works successfully is allowed to continue working successfully.

Sincerely,

Diane D. Buxbaum, MPH

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Earsdale Ash <earsdale.ash@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:00 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Congressional Maps Concern Comment Period

To whom this may concern,

Special Master, Jonathan Cervas, a postdoctoral fellow at Carnegie Mellon University, was tasked with redrawing both congressional and state senate maps for the state of New York. While this comment is not an attempt to question Mr. Cervas' qualifications, the recently submitted maps are plagued with severe implications if (indeed) strongly considered.

These maps fail to take into account:

-
-
- Representation and its historical context.
-
-
-
- Economic analysis and the impact felt on the constituents..
-
-
- Less than sufficient time for the comment period.
-

New York City is a melting pot of different cultures and ethnicities. Any intention of "redistricting" should be an attempt to create a fair, favorable, and equitable environment for its constituents. These maps come off as an effort to dilute minority representation amongst "specific" public officials. I hope that Mr. Cervas make his findings public—on how these lines were derived and how much time [if any] was spent in the state of New York when he crafted his module? It would be very concerning if most of the general decision-making was used off the basis of available data such as demographic information instead of ground site visits.

Furthermore, these maps show several incumbents who may now be forced to relocate due to their current status outside of city lines. These members were favorably elected to represent an area they feel comfortable in. However, poised with possible relocation costs and the potential shifts in public policy that will reflect the area's needs, you are creating a less than authentic experience for both the voters and candidates seeking to run for office. Such a dynamic shift could upend previous progress made for all communities.

These are just but a few concerns that could, in turn, create lasting consequences. More time and consideration should be the alternative, and an exploratory committee should be afforded to Mr. Cervas so that he may more accurately draw lines that encapsulate all of the things that make New York one of the most diverse states in the nation.

Best,
 Earl Ash

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Brenda A. Wise

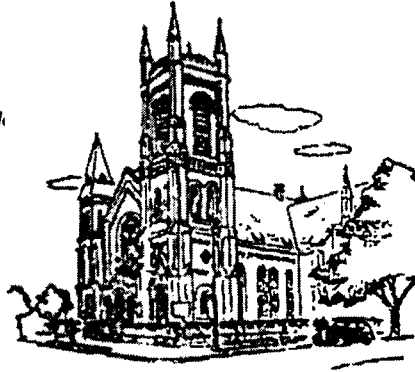
From: Billy Sternberg <billy.sternberg@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:03 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: BUT WHAT DO WE HAVE IN COMMON

We no longer have a State Senator who is for ours to a gay set-aside Senate district.
That's one answer.
Billy Sternberg
917 685 8203

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Brown Memorial Baptist Church

Rev. Clinton M. Miller, Pastor
Melvin Brown, Chairman Deacon Board Shend
Marilyn Brown, treasurer
Dea. Charles Dempster, Suot. Sunday School
Angela Roper, Church Clerk
Bobbie Gant, Church Secretary



May 18, 2022

Honorable Patrick McAllister
 Acting Supreme Court Justice
 Steuben County Supreme & County Court
 3 East Pulteney Square
 Bath, New York 14810

Special Master Jonathan Cervas
 Institute for Politics and Strategy
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Posner Hall 386
 5000 Forbes Avenue
 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

Dear Judge McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

As representatives and members of the clergy in Central Brooklyn, we write to you to today to express our deep concern with the newly drawn 8th Congressional District of New York and to provide testimony outlining the consequences this new map will have on both our communities of faith all of those who reside in this historic district.

Long before the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was established allowing so many communities of interest to have representation, Central Brooklyn, including the great neighborhood of Bedford-Stuyvesant, has always been home to a strong and diverse community of faith with some of our historic Black churches dating back to before the Civil War. Generations of hard working African American families have been linked together by many of the same churches and religious centers that still exist presently. Today, so many of us still work together, eat together, pray together, and serve our community together.

The deep-rooted generational bond that ties the tenets of this community together in Central Brooklyn has strengthened our resolve and driven many of us towards a shared purpose to help one another and fight for the same causes. We are, by definition, a community of interest. Together, the congregations here work collectively to grow our community stronger and address common problems like the historic inequities many of us in the Black community have lived with our whole lives. By working together, tackling similar concerns, and creating meaningful partnerships with our community, we have been able to achieve so much.

Much of our success, however, has been a direct result of our ability to speak collectively to our shared federal representative. Our leverage is in our unified voice, but the newly drawn 8th Congressional District of New York threatens to undermine and potentially eliminate that power. With these new lines, Bedford-Stuyvesant has been cracked in half, ripping the “flock,” which many consider to be the beating heart of Bedford-Stuyvesant, in half as well.

Preserving the believers in Central Brooklyn under one congressional district is to preserve our common mission to stay

connected and advocate for our shared interests. The newly created map dilutes our voice and consequentially, diminishes our ability to fight for what we believe is right.

On behalf of all parishioners in Central Brooklyn, we ask that you consider what this new map does to our voice. The New York State Constitution requires the core of existing congressional districts be protected. We humbly state that the communities of faith in Central Brooklyn represent a core part of this district and ask you to keep us intact so that we may continue to serve this great district together.

Sincerely,

Reverend Clinton Miller
Brown Memorial Baptist Church

Reverend Dr. Adolphus C. Lacey
Bethany Baptist Church

Reverend Dr. Craig B. Gaddy Sr.
Friendship Baptist Church

Reverend David B. Cousin
Bridge Street AME Church

Reverend Dr. Washington Lundy
Evening Star Baptist Church

Brenda A. Wise

From: Tracey Pinkard <tracey@bcs448.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:00 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise

Greetings,

There are is a simple message as this committee decides our fate. We are a collective in response to the many residents of Gowanus Houses in our concerns of how this rezoning would once again minimize our the major steps

Congressperson Vazquez has forged on the behalf of public housing residents of communities such as ours. The discrepancies of prominent political figures and their unfamiliarity of concerns truly are worth reviewing. Our relationships are spatial and seasonal. If the season has passed, how are we assured that prior commitments are still of value?

As mentioned by others our strength is in community and with the leadership f that has served us well.

Best,
Tracey L. Pinkard
Gowanus Houses Vice President

--

Tracey L. Pinkard

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Amanda Erin Green <greenama@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:00 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Opposition to E2022-0116CV Harkenrider v. Hochul

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a voter in Eddyville, NY and I oppose the redistricting plan that will divide the city of Kingston into two districts. This plan will disenfranchise voters of color, and effectively dilute the voice of the greater Kingston community.

I do hope that the court will stop this proposal that will down out my community's right to speak and vote on our issues as one.

Amanda Green

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Heather Crocker <heathergcrocker9@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:01 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Cc: Minita Sanghvi
Subject: CD 20

As a Saratoga Springs resident and an elected official, I am strongly opposed to the Congressional map that would remove my city from district 20, where it currently sits with the other major cities in the Capital Region. Our municipal leaders have long standing working relationships, we share economic and transportation networks. Many of our residents work and have families in these neighboring communities.

Placing Saratoga Springs into a district that stretches to the Canadian border with communities that have much different needs than our own will ultimately be detrimental to our community. I urge you to include Saratoga Springs in the proposed 20th Congressional District when you finalize the Congressional maps.

Thank you,
Minita Sanghvi
Commissioner of Finance
City of Saratoga Springs

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Brenda A. Wise

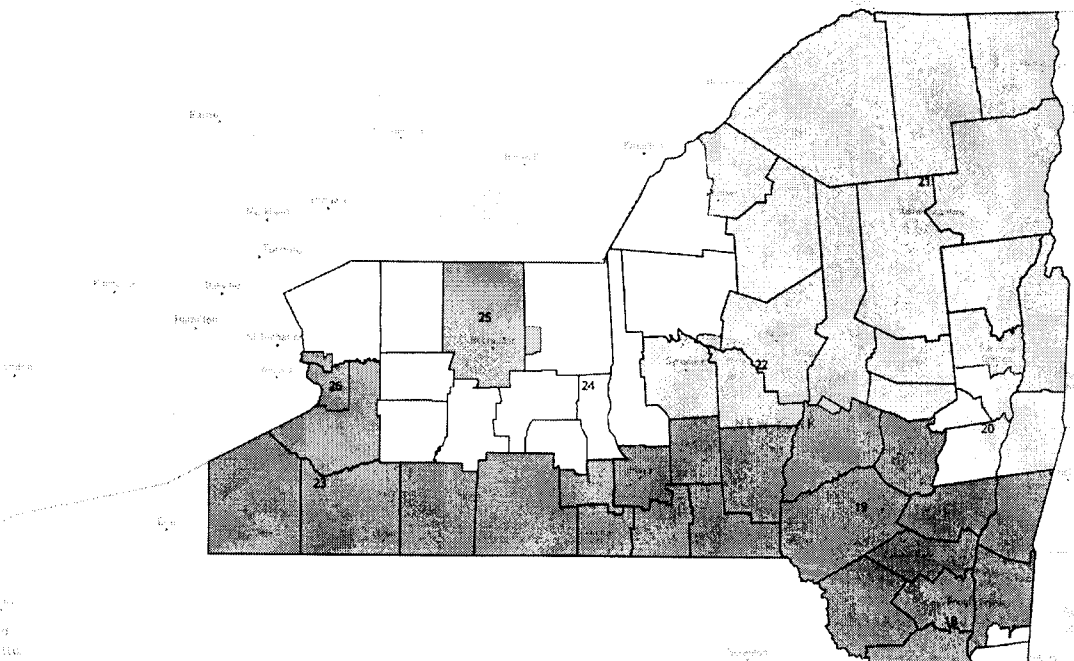
From: Luke Kastel <lkastel@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:01 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Comment on proposed Congressional maps

There are two areas of the map that I believe contain unnecessary splitting of communities of interest, and could better be resolved: the Buffalo suburbs, and south Brooklyn.

Buffalo

The current draft splits Erie County 3 ways, and places the city of Buffalo itself in with Niagara County, much of which is fully rural and bears little relation or political history with the city. Meanwhile, doing so places inner suburbs, places where the typical resident commutes into the city, shops there, etc. This is especially concerning in the case of Cheektowaga and Lackawanna, as it splits off some of Buffalo's Black and Latino communities.

To fix this, I propose that every inner suburb abutting the city be returned to the Buffalo district: Cheektowaga, West Seneca, and Lackawanna. To resolve the three-way splitting of Erie and the lost population for the Southern Tier district, shift Tioga County into it (which would, incidentally, do a better job at keeping the Southern Tier together). This gives almost perfect population equality. The Buffalo district can then transfer away its rural population to the Finger Lakes district. The tweaks after that are less important, but my suggestion to achieve population equity from there is giving the 19th district the rest of Otsego and Schoharie counties, then have the North Country district make up the remainder in Jefferson County, which is already split. I also think this configuration would be better served if the Rochester district went into Wayne instead of Orleans, for reasons of compactness. The below image shows this all visually.

**Brooklyn**

My main suggestion is that the Asian communities of South Brooklyn not undergo a 4-way split. I also think it would be helpful, especially for later in the decade as Brooklyn gentrifies, to increase the Black share in CD-9. To fix this, I suggest not extending CD-9 as far south, and giving it everything west of Flatbush Ave. Make up the population difference by giving the 9th the rest of Bed-Stuy, while the 8th can move further into South Brooklyn, while also losing its share of Bensonhurst, which should go, as with the southern end of CD-9, to CD-11. Borough Park should be moved to CD-9 to help it function as a district selecting Black voters' choice, since the residents there are unlikely to bloc vote with the

more liberal voters in the north of the district. For reasons of population equality, CD-10 then needs to take the rest of Red Hook, Sunset Park, and a little bit more. I would suggest some of north Bensonhurst, since Bay Ridge is directly across from Staten Island, and makes more sense in CD-11. The below image shows this all visually.



A Dave Redistricting App map with these changes shown can be found here: <https://davesredistricting.org/join/b771e4b9-6536-4b3f-aeaf-e97641cf13df>

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Chris Nugent <chrisn.458@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:02 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Comments on new congressional maps

The new map looks a lot less gerrymandered than the previous version. Well done mr cervas.

Chris Nugent
Bayside, NY

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Scottie Bowditch <scottiebowditch@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:02 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting

Hello!

I am writing to you regarding the proposed change to the state Senate district map for my block (Bergen Street between 4th and 5th Avenues) in Brooklyn. We have lived here since 1998, and raised two daughters who went to local schools and now also live nearby.

I am concerned that the proposed removal of our blocks from the neighborhood to which they are part of will, effectively, disenfranchise us. To add these few blocks of Park Slope (south of Flatbush Avenue bordered by Warren Street, Prospect Place, and 4th Avenue) to a much larger district on the other side of Flatbush, subverts our ability to make the case for our local concerns, which include street parking (now used by patrons of the state-enabled Barclay's arena), speeding, honking, transit, lack of open space, no dog-runs, development on 4th Avenue, the changes in retail, restaurants, and bars on our "main street" (5th Avenue, which terminates at Flatbush) and many other quality of life issues.

All these issues are shared with Park Slope and Boerum Hill; the central core of our neighborhood is to the south and west, not across Flatbush.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

All the best,

Scottie Bowditch
400 Bergen Street

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Trevor Colas <tacolaslaw@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:03 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Proposed Congressional Redistricting Map

Dear Justice McAllister:

I write to express my concerns regarding your proposed Congressional redistricting map for implementation during this year's federal elections.

I am a registered voter in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, which the current 9th CD, represented by Rep. Yvette Clarke. I am very concerned about your proposal to split our district, leading to a possible loss of representation for the African-American electorate in Brooklyn.

I would urge you to reconsider your proposal to minimize the disadvantage that would follow from your plans as currently presented.

Kind regards,
Trevor Colas
917.880.5657
tacolaslaw@gmail.com

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Amy Motzny <amy@gowanuscanalconservancy.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:03 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Cc: Andrea Parker
Subject: Congressional District NY-7 Draft Congressional Map

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas,

Gowanus Canal Conservancy (GCC) the environmental steward for the Gowanus Canal and Watershed located within the existing NY-7 Congressional District boundaries. We are dedicated to facilitating the development of a resilient, vibrant, open space network centered on the Gowanus Canal through activating and empowering community stewardship of the Gowanus Watershed. Since 2006, we have served as the environmental steward for the neighborhood through leading grassroots volunteer projects; educating students on environmental issues; and working with agencies, elected officials, and the community to advocate for, build, and maintain innovative green infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of Combined Sewage Overflow (CSO) and support improved water quality of the Gowanus Canal.

The Gowanus Canal is one of the dirtiest waterbodies in the country, due to a combination of historic industrial contamination and ongoing combined sewage overflow. Largely due to the committed advocacy of a single Congresswoman for the existing NY-7 district, the EPA is currently overseeing a comprehensive Superfund clean-up to address this contamination. However, the proposed Congressional redistricting cuts a major portion of the canal, flowing between Red Hook and Sunset Park, out of district NY-7, endangering the years of planning and advocacy for a comprehensive clean-up.

Additionally, while the proposed map does include much of the Gowanus Canal and Watershed, it excludes the southern reaches of the Canal that extend into Gowanus Bay and ignores the hydrologic connections between the neighborhoods of Gowanus and Red Hook. The boundary of NY-7 must be extended to include Red Hook to ensure comprehensive planning that will continue to address water quality and flooding due to increased precipitation and the impacts of climate change,

We thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
 Gowanus Canal Conservancy

--

Amy Motzny
 Watershed Senior Planner
 Gowanus Canal Conservancy

We Moved!
 The Old American Can Factory
 248 Third Street | Brooklyn, NY 11215
 office: 718.541.4378 Ext. 7001 | cell: 231.425.0900

Keep up with GCC!

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gowanuscanalconservancy.org

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